

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 02537 141430Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----141432Z 023997 /43
O 141408Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2459

S E C R E T ABIDJAN 2537

EXDIS

FOR AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE SCHAUFLE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IV
SUBJ: HOUPHOUET REQUESTS PRESIDENT CARTER
RECEIVE IVORIAN AMBASSADOR

REF: ABIDJAN 0466

1. PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY CONVOKED ME THIS MORNING TO SAY THAT HE HAD PREPARED PERSONAL MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT CARTER WHICH HE WOULD LIKE IVORIAN AMBASSADOR AHOUA TO DELIVER TO PRESIDENT PERSONALLY. HE SAID THAT AHOUA (WHO IS NOW IN ABIDJAN) WOULD BE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON TONIGHT OR TOMORROW AND HOUPHOUET HOPED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE ABLE TO RECEIVE HIM AS SOON THEREAFTER AS POSSIBLE. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTIONS, HOUPHOUET SAID THAT HIS LETTER PRESENTED HIS IDEAS ON A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS OF COMMON INTEREST INCLUDING SOUTHERN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD GREATLY APPRECIATED THE TONE AND CONTENT OF THE MESSAGE HE HAD RECEIVED FROM PRESIDENT CARTER IN JANUARY. IN HIS USUAL MODEST WAY HOUPHOUET SAID THAT HE REALIZED THE IVORY COAST COULD NOT INFLUENCE "GREAT EVENTS" IN A DRAMATIC WAY BUT HE HOPED NEVERTHELESS THAT HIS VIEWS
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WOULD BE USEFUL TO THE PRESIDENT SINCE THEY CAME FROM AN AFRICAN LEADER WHO HAD NO AXE TO GRIND AND SPOKE AS A FRIEND OF THE WEST IN GENERAL AND THE UNITED STATES IN PARTICULAR.

2. COMMENT: WHILE HOUPHOUET DID NOT REPEAT NOT MENTION THE QUESTION OF U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOP-

MENT BANK (REFTEL), IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HIS LETTER WILL COVER THIS SUBJECT AS WELL AS THOSE HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY TO ME. AS YOU KNOW, IT IS RARE FOR HOUPHOUET TO REQUEST SPECIAL ATTENTION OF THE KIND HE IS NOW SEEKING. HE OBVIOUSLY ATTACHES CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO THIS FIRST EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AND I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR PRESIDENT CARTER TO RECEIVE MESSAGE PERSONALLY FROM AMBASSADOR AHOUA. END COMMENT.

3. I WILL BE REPORTING OTHER VIEWS EXPRESSED BY HOUPHOUET BY SEPTTEL.
STEARNS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770087-0057
Format: TEL
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770364/aaaacelg.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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